GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1922
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016
MoUs with Afghanistan
Rori Shri Charanjeet Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the MoUs signed between India and Afghanistan for the development of minerals and natural gas in Afghanistan;

(b) the present status of the railway line between Chabahar port in Iran and Bamiyan province in Afghanistan which is proposed to be built by India; and

(c) the details of financial/infrastructural commitments made to Afghanistan by India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) The concerned authorities of India and Afghanistan are in touch with each other regarding various aspects of implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the Field of Development of Hydrocarbons, the MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Mineral Resources Development and the MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Development of Coal Mineral Resources, keeping in view, inter alia, the requirements of Afghanistan, the overall environment there and the avenues available under ongoing bilateral development cooperation, such as for capacity building.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of Government.

(c) Since 2001, India has committed over US $ 2 billion to Afghanistan in development cooperation. The projects under such cooperation include the construction of Afghan Parliament Building, highway from Zaranj to Delaram (218 km) in Nimroz province, 220 KV Transmission Line from Pul-e-Khumri to Kabul together with a sub-station at Chimtala, two more power sub-stations at Doshi and Charikar, Afghanistan India Friendship Dam (Salma Dam), setting up of Afghanistan National Agricultural Sciences and Technology University (ANASTU), implementation of Small Development Projects, provision of food assistance of 1 million tonnes of wheat, partly in form of grain, and partly as biscuits for about 1.5 million school children provided through the World Food Programme, 1000 scholarships annually to Afghan students for undergraduate and higher studies in India, support to educational and medical institutions such as Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health in Kabul, training and medical treatment for personnel of Afghan National Defense and Security Forces in India, capacity building for Afghan civil servants and empowerment of Afghan women and youth.